

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19 and continuing to page 20:

Figs. 5A-E illustrate splicing interference mediated by the protein-binding antisense oligo ~~in vivo~~ in cultured cells. (A) Splicing map of the Bcl-x pre-mRNA showing the splicing events leading to Bcl-xL and Bcl-xS mRNA production. The position and sequence of the 2'O-Me oligos used ~~in vivo~~ is indicated. (B) Native gel analysis of UP1 binding to oligonucleotides. The TS10 DNA oligo (60 nt) contains nine A1 binding sites. Each labeled oligo was incubated with increasing amounts of the shortened version of recombinant hnRNP A1 (GST-UP1). Complexes were fractionated in a 5% acrylamide gel. The position of the free oligo and the complexes is shown. In panels C, D and E, PC-3, HCT 116 and MCF-7 cells were transfected with increasing amounts of oligo. Total RNA was extracted after 48 hours and a RT-PCR assay was performed to evaluate the relative abundance of the Bcl-xS and Bcl-xL mRNA isoforms. The ratios of these amplified products are depicted in each graph and only RT-PCR results obtained at the 100 nM concentration are shown on gels stained with ethidium bromide;